

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Activities at the Zeiss Plant, Jena

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EVENTS AT ZEISS PLANT, JENA, FROM THE TIME OF OCCUPATION BY SOVIET FORCES IN JULY 1945 TO THE TIME OF ITS RECONSTRUCTION IN 1947.

1. The occupation of the Zeiss plant by Soviet occupation forces resulted in increased activities in all departments. The Soviets ordered the reconstruction of drawings, the manufacture of blueprints and the assembly of samples of various types of equipment formerly produced for the German army. Most blueprints for this type of equipment had been confiscated by the US Forces on their arrival. Production of binoculars was resumed, and large quantities of them were delivered to the Russians. The plant also initiated the production of the "Contax" camera, formerly produced at Zeiss-Ikon in Dresden, Soviet Zone, and an assembly line was installed for this purpose. Production began on a portable sound film projector, but it is unknown to me where plans and design for this projector came from. Manufacture of former Zeiss products such as microscopes and accessories for scientific, medical and industrial research, micrometric equipment, and geodetic and medical instruments was also resumed. I have no further information on these products.

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2. Dismantling of the plant began on 22 October 1946, by order of the Soviet occupation authorities. Approximately 300 scientists, engineers and specialists and their families were deported to various places in the USSR. Sixty specialists.

to Prazhevo (18 km. northwest of Moscow) (sic); seven to Kolonna (100 km. south of Moscow); eight to Zagorsk (35 km. northeast of Moscow); 15 to Prisma in Moscow; and the remainder to Leningrad and Kiev. I am not familiar with the disposition of the Leningrad and Kiev groups. I do not know what criteria were used by the Soviets in their selection of specialists for deportation. I observed that all personnel specializing in design or construction of military equipment were deported, i.e., the entire group under engineer JUNGHE specializing in antiaircraft data computers went to Krasnogorsk and another group under engineer Arthur Pula specializing in range finders and submarine periscopes went to Leningrad. Approximately 90 per cent of all machinery and equipment, including pipes and sanitary installation, was removed. I have no information as to the disposition of dismantled equipment.

RECONSTRUCTION OF PLANT

3. Following is an account of events at Zeiss [redacted] detained at the plant by the Soviets. Reconstruction began in the spring and summer of 1947. Dr. Hugo SCHRADE was appointed plant manager after the departure of US Forces. Machines available anywhere in the Soviet Zone were brought to the plant, and work began immediately on improving and repairing this partially old and defect machinery. I do not know if the Soviets assisted with the procurement of machinery. Several months passed before the plant was re-equipped sufficiently to start production again.

PRODUCTION AS OF [redacted]

4. [redacted], the following equipment was in production at the plant: microscopes and microscopic equipment for scientific, medical and industrial research, lenses for spectacles, ophthalmic instruments, medical and surgical instruments such as cystoscopes and surgical lighting equipment, machine stand probing gauges and profilimeters, micrometer gauge screws, measuring microscopes, and geodetic instruments from sextants to theodolites of different types. Production also included an electron microscope, binoculars of varying power, opera glasses, photo lenses, projectors for miniature and large size negatives called diasopes, opaque picture projection devices called episopes, and a portable sound film projector which permitted the lecturer to project his own sketches as he drew them, a microfilm reading apparatus called a documator, and a microfilm copying apparatus. A new telescope for use in schools and small observatories had been developed, and the Zeiss planetarium had been rebuilt. The plant produced an aircraft gunner training device known as "apparatus A 1" (Geraet A 1) for the Soviet Military. Production of the Contax camera was discontinued and returned to

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Zeiss-Ikon in Dresden. Many other products were manufactured at Zeiss, Jena, but I can not enumerate them nor am I able to give specific information on any item mentioned above.

NAME OF PLANT

5. Today the plant is called "OPTIK CARL ZEISS, JENA, VEB", and after nationalization was placed under the Ministry for Machine Construction.

BUILDINGS

6. All buildings, which were destroyed or damaged during World War II, have been reconstructed, or are in the process of reconstruction. Many buildings seem more modern in appearance and layout.

INTERNAL CHANGES AFTER JUNE 1952

7. With the return of large numbers of specialists from the USSR, the development potential at Zeiss increased considerably and scientific departments, design offices and laboratories grew proportionally. The development group "Bildmess" (photogrammetry) became an independent designing office. Engineer Hermann SCHRUMPF, who formerly headed the design offices of Zavod 393 at Krasnogorsk, USSR, was appointed chief. Besides the "A 1 apparatus", a device for measuring heights from a pair of stereoscopic pictures, called a stereocomparator, and a new mirror stereoscope were developed. A large new picture distortion device for aerial photographs was being developed, as well as different types of autographs used for making maps from stereographic air photographs (comparable to the apparatus built by Wild, Zurich, Switzerland). Improvements in the design of the "A 1 apparatus" were made.
8. A new designing and development office was established under the direction of engineer Arthur Pulz, who had returned from Lenin-grad (see paragraph 2 of this report). Judging from the personnel assigned to this office, it seems possible that the design and development of range finders are being planned. Source was also queried as to whether he thought this office might also work on the design of periscopes used in submarines. He stated that he did not know, but that personnel in this section were well qualified to provide such designs if called upon. The scientific management of the plant was conducted by Dr. Paul Goerlich, former chief of the photocell laboratories at Zavod 393. He received as assistants Karl PAPELLO and Dr. Karl August Sommerfeld. In the personnel section, the politically reliable SED member Hans BRAUNE replaced the former chief of personnel, SCHNEIDER.

PRODUCTION

9. I am not familiar with production figures, quality of finished products, rejects, raw materials, shortages, efficiency of machines and types used.

RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL STATIONS

10. Research at the plant was performed by three groups:

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- (a) scientific research
- (b) design planning
- (c) production planning

I have no knowledge of activities of scientific research laboratories and heard of no new experiments in the design or production shops. The production planning group (c) comprises two experimental shops and works for both (a) and (b) above. See Organization Chart of Zeiss, Jena, Enclosure (A) 7.

COOPERATION AMONG VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

11. A general opinion prevails among designers that cooperation among scientific departments and designing offices is unsatisfactory. Members of the scientific staff were formerly located in a designing office and now work in offices of their own. This separation prevents the necessary close contact and frequently leads to delays and misunderstandings. Scientific leadership is considered equally unsatisfactory as shown by the fact that the scientific staff is incapable of high quality guidance to the designing staff.

WORKERS AND PAY SCALE

12. The plant employs about 10,000 workers, of which 35 per cent are women. Perhaps 50 per cent of the workers are skilled, 25 per cent semiskilled, and 25 per cent unskilled. The workweek is Monday through Saturday, 8 1/2 hours on weekdays, and 5 1/2 hours on Saturday. Overtime is necessary in some departments, and other departments work in three shifts of eight hours. Skilled workers receive about two ~~eastmarks~~ per hour; draftsmen 300-500 ~~eastmarks~~ per month; layout men 500-800 ~~eastmarks~~, and construction engineers 800 to a maximum of 1,045 ~~eastmarks~~ per month.

KEY PERSONNEL

13. I have made an organization chart of the Zeiss Works, Jena. See Enclosure (A) 7. I believe that the the organizational breakdown on the chart is correct and complete as far as the scientific and design sections are concerned. It is possible that departments other than those indicated on chart exist, but I have no knowledge of them. Reference lines drawn from personnel management to the administrative section of each department indicate the presence of an SED member acting as personnel consultant to each department. Most of the key personnel at the plant are returnees from Zavod 393, Krasnogorsk. For biographic information on these returnees see Report No. 17. In addition I can furnish information on the following persons who are not returnees:

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14. I have no knowledge of Soviet personnel at the Zeiss Works in Jena. [redacted] that a Soviet office exists at the plant and that this office is charged with the acceptance of the air craft gunner training device "apparatus A 1".

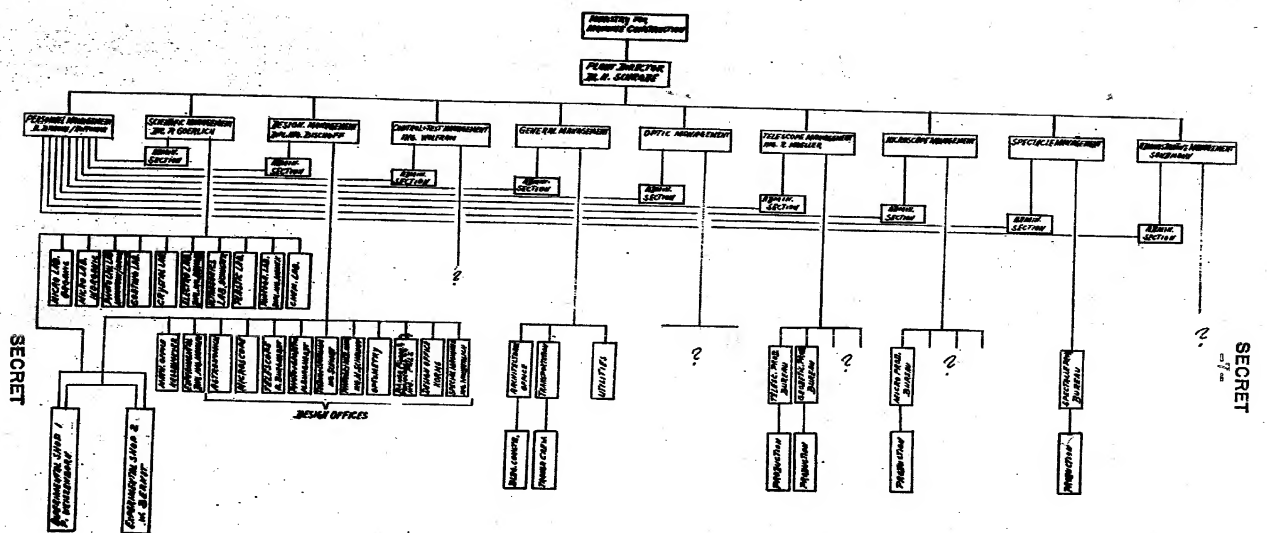
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SECURITY

15. The pass permitting entry into the plant was the same for all personnel, i.e., technicians, scientists and workers. It was pink in color and had no time limit. If the pass was lost, a duplicate pass stamped "Duplikat" was issued. I estimate that there were about 100-150 guards, 15 per cent of them women, and ranging in age from 20-30 years, at the plant. All are members of the People's Police and wear the regulation uniform. An office of the People's Police was located in the plant and operated independently of the management of plant. Plant and gates were under 24-hour guard, and male guards carried pistols. I noticed no special security precautions such as alarm systems, searchlights, etc.

ENCLOSURE (A): Organization Chart of Zeiss Works, Jena, SovZone.

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Enclosure (A)

ORGANIZATION CHART
ZSSS WORKS, JENA (Sov. Zone)